

# Interactive Exhibit at Washita Battlefield Site Nominated for Awards

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An interactive exhibit at the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site (WBNHS) that was created by Southwestern Oklahoma State University faculty and staff in Weatherford was nominated this spring for two National Park Service Awards.

The collaborative project between WBNHS and SWOSU created an interactive exhibit designed to interpret the battle along the Washita River for all visitors—including visitors who have visual disabilities.

The project built upon the 2015 research of Dr. Siriporn Peters in the SWOSU Department of Art, Communication, and Theatre. Funding was provided by organized research from the SWOSU College of Arts and Sciences, Western National Parks Association through the WBNHS and SWOSU Foundation.

The research team, led by Peters, consisted of Dr. Henrietta Mann, former president of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College; Assistant Professor Frederic Murray, instructional services librarian at the Al Harris Library; and Kevin Mohr, chief of interpretation at WBNHS.

Mann, Murray and Mohr wrote the script for the audio. Peters and Angsuemalin Peters, an engineering technology student at SWOSU, developed the graphic design based on the current map of the WBNHS. Instructor Nathan Brooks and Chair Brad in the Engineering Technology Department designed and built the wooden stand to display the interactive exhibit which meets the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

The exhibit was produced by Touch Graphics, Inc., and was nominated for the two awards—Achieving Relevance through Interpretive Media and Technology Award and the Accessibility Award for Interpretive Design Project Achievement.